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RSA ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S EVENT

House of Commons, London, 5th October 2012

Gail C. Mulvey, University of Cumbria, UK



This year's RSA President's Luncheon was held in the prestigious setting of the

House of Commons in London. RSA members enjoyed a glass of champagne on the Terrace overlooking the river Thames before proceeding into the Churchill Room for lunch.

It was a very fitting location for the RSA annual awards ceremony (please see list of winners in the article below) presented by the President of the Association, Sir Peter Hall. He himself was also given a present in celebration of his 80th birthday. Having been



Drinks on the Terrace of the House of Commons



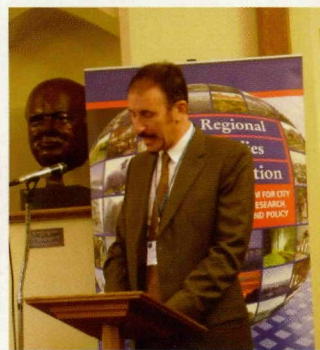
Lunch in the Churchill Room of the House of Commons

born in Blackpool and being the 'international rock' of the RSA for many years, the Chair of the RSA, David Bailey, aptly presented him with a stick of the famous Blackpool rock with the RSA logo embodied in it and everyone present also received one!

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the field of economic geography and regional studies over a significant period of time, the 'Sir Peter Hall Contribution to the Field' Award went to Michael Storper of the LSE, UK; UCLA, USA and Sciences Po, France.

Professor Storper was our Guest Speaker and his talk covered the topic of the metropolitan region as the level

at which most things will be measured and economies will be organised in the 21st century. He stressed that globalisation generates many benefits for successful city-regions but presents problems for the less successful ones. This, he says, is why those interested in regional studies will continue to inquire into what fosters economic development in the



Guest Speaker, Michael Storper.

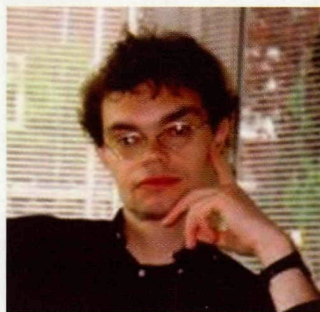
less successful places and also what will ensure the resilience of currently successful city-regions.

The fine food and wine was enjoyed by about 100 members and there were further opportunities for catching up with friends and networking as the day was rounded off in The Red Lion public house on Whitehall.



RSA President, Sir Peter Hall, is presented with a birthday present of a stick of Blackpool Rock.

ARNOUD LAGENDIJK, PROFESSOR OF ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY



We are pleased to inform RSA members that Arnoud Lagendijk has been appointed Professor of Economic Geography at Nijmegen University in

the Netherlands from 1st October 2012. As many will know, Arnoud is a longstanding member of the Association, a current Board Member as well as the present Editor-in-Chief of our journal, *Regional Studies*. This appointment is in recognition of Arnoud's significant contributions to research on regional studies which focuses on various aspects of post-structural economic geography including analyses of the discourses

on regionalism, regional innovation policy and spatial planning. Arnoud comments, "this new position will provide new opportunities to advance research on innovation networks, to contribute to debates on local economic development and to engage in fruitful debate on different perspectives within regional studies including evolutionary, institutional and neoclassical approaches within regional studies."

Congratulations to Arnoud on this achievement.

The Editors

Arnoud Lagendijk is Professor of Economic Geography at Nijmegen School of Management, Department of Geography, Planning and the Environment, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands. a.lagendijk@ru.nl